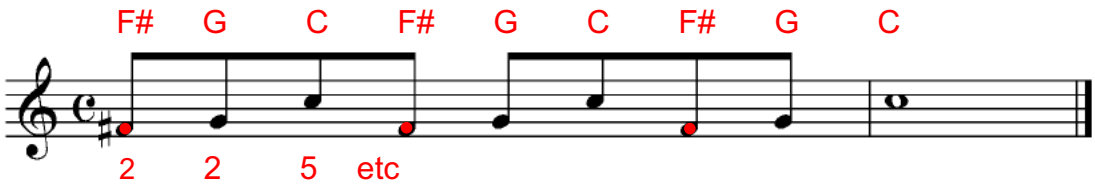
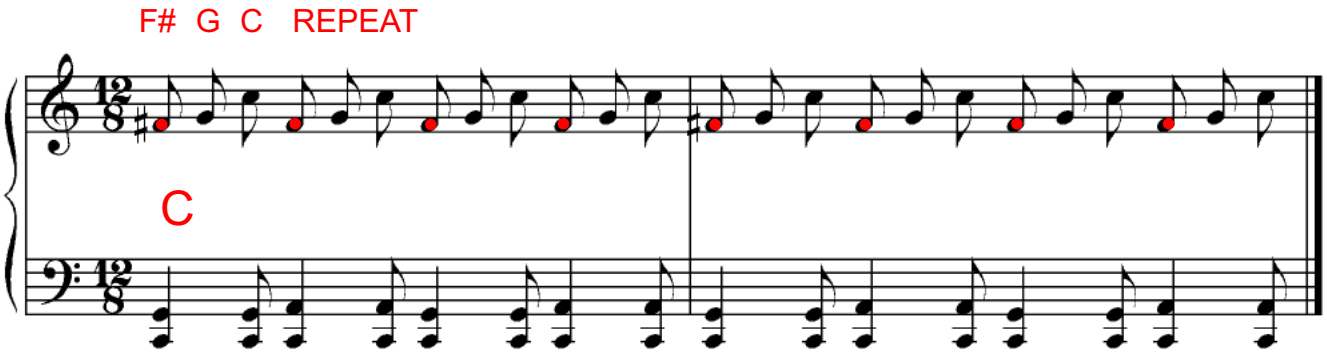
EXPERIMENT WITH VARIOUS RIFFS

You can see from the previous examples how to practice a riff or pattern.

1. Choose one of the RIGHT HAND patterns ie.



2. Play it repeatedly over one of the LEFT HAND rhythms ie.



Go through the entire 12 bar chord sequence so that you get used to playing a riff while you change chords.

Try the following riffs on the next page.

Then try them again with each of the other Left Hand rhythms -

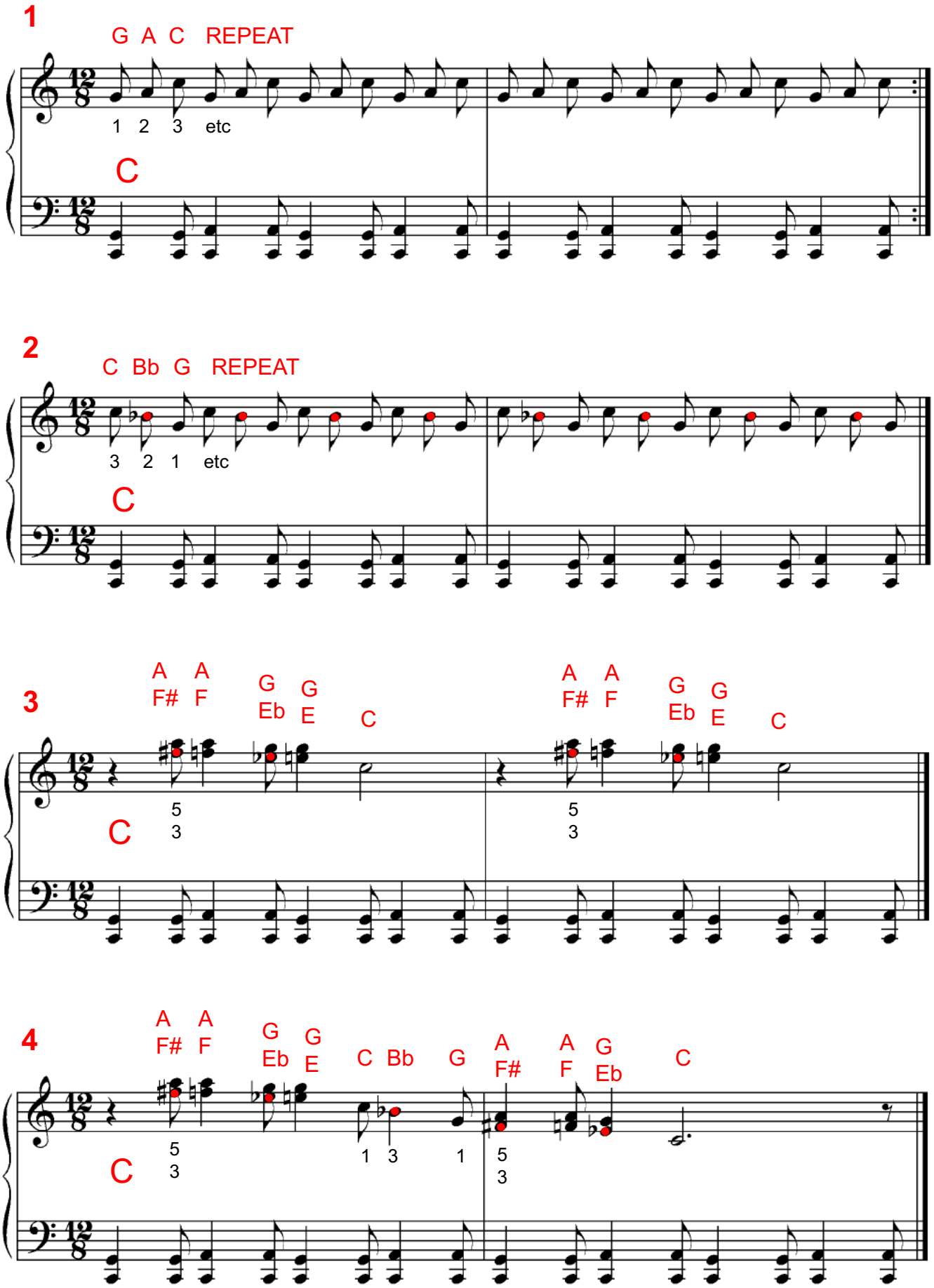
the **Straight 8 Boogie**

the **Beginners Blues**

and the **Twist** rhythm

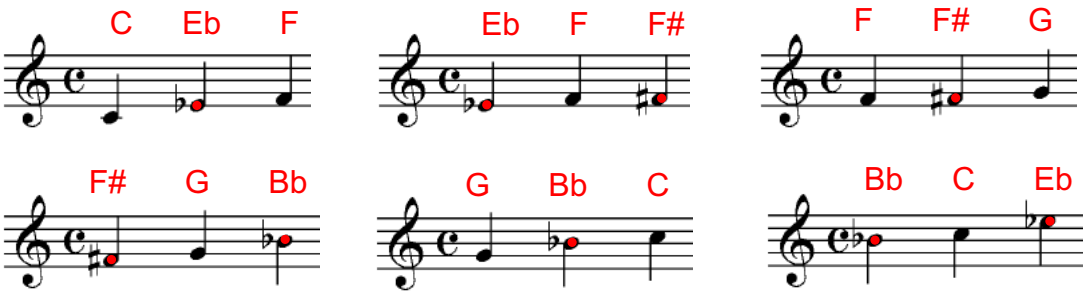
VARIOUS RIFFS

12/8 SHUFFLE (Left Hand)

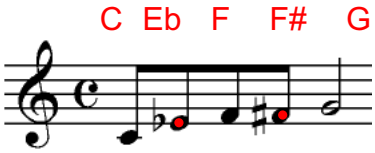


MORE RIFFS TO PRACTICE WITH
(from book 6)

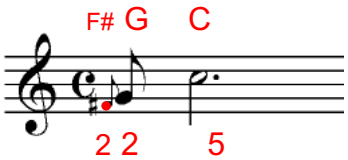
These three note patterns are taken from the BLUES SCALE - experiment with them



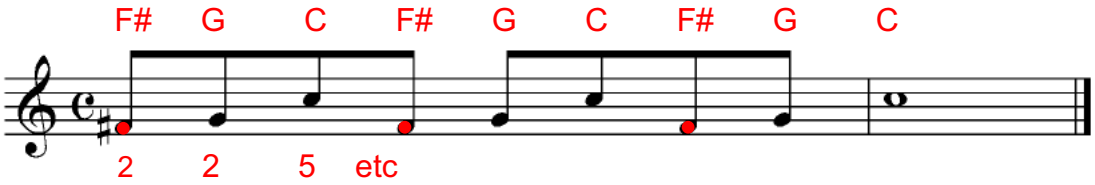
This is a five finger position for the scale



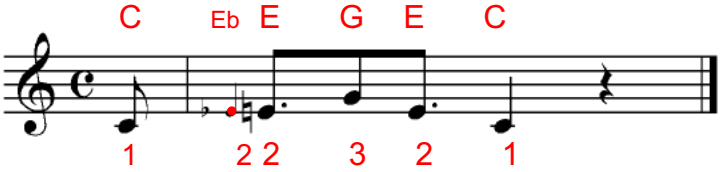
This is called a 'SLIDE' - you SLIDE onto the white key from the flat of the key

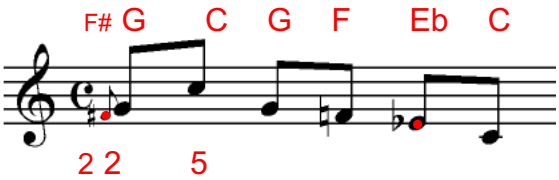


This sounds similar but stretches the sound out. Variety is good
Notice that the sharp # in front of the first F makes them ALL sharp in that bar.



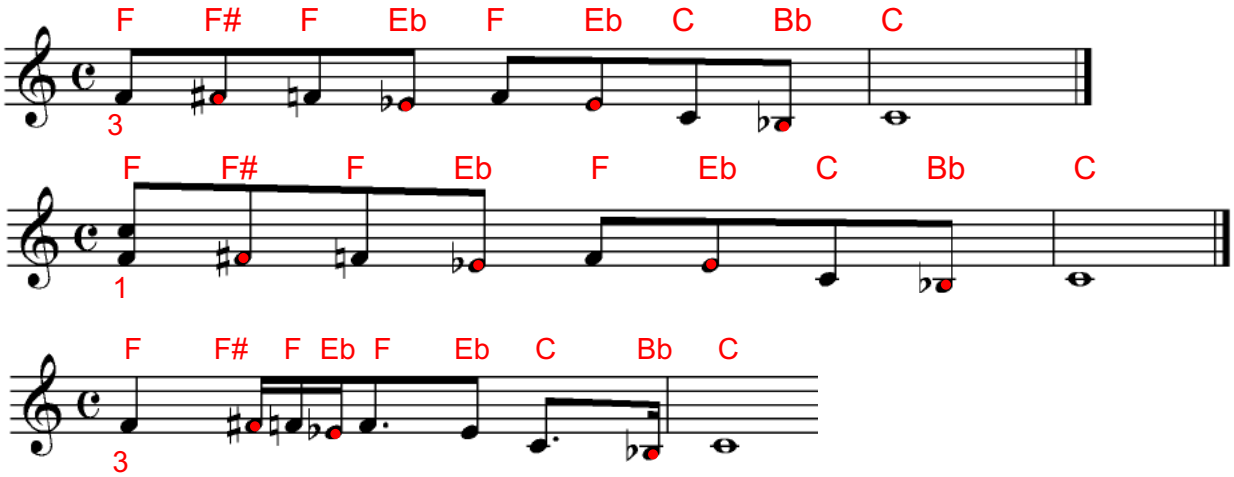
I call this the 'Bonnie & Clyde' Riff. It always reminds me of the song.



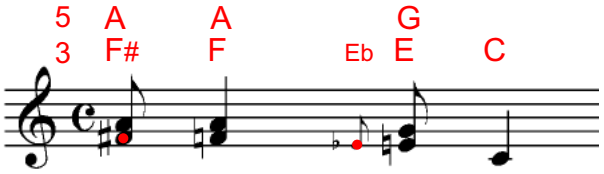


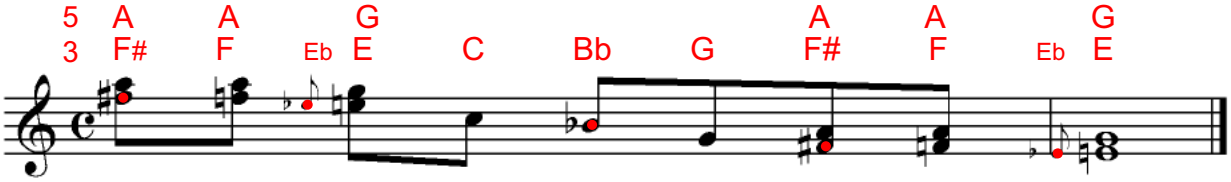
MORE RIFFS TO PRACTICE WITH
(from book 6)

The following 3 patterns are nearly the same. The second riff has just got an added C note on TOP of the first note. This is a common blues trick. In the third riff the 2nd to 5th notes are played very quickly which is a riff in itself. LISTEN to the recording!

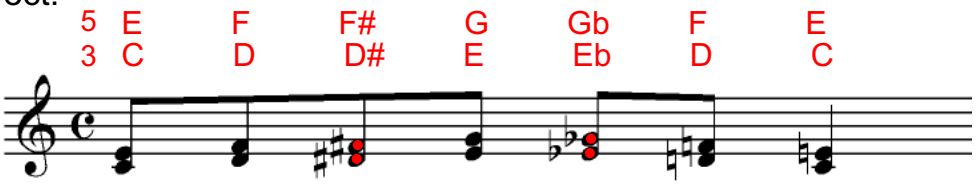
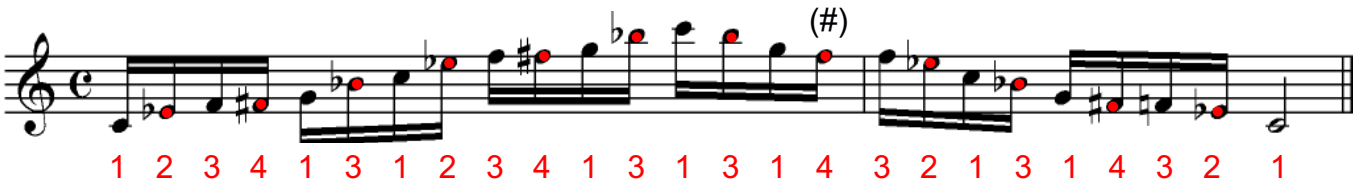


Blues riffs very often use ‘double’ notes - this gives an extra ‘ring’ and you often SLIDE on to the notes from a flat note.





You will have heard the following riff a million times. Try transposing it to F and G for better effect.



This is the BLUES SCALE over two octaves up and down.
The trick is getting the fingering right. Sounds great though doesn’t it?